DLO DAILY MEDIA UPDATE

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Soldier's Afghan strategy: One village elder at a time

(CNN)...Libby Lewis

Army Lt. Jarrin Jackson, who spent most of last year in eastern Afghanistan, said he believes in the counterinsurgency principles pushed by Gen. David Petraeus, who is now director of the CIA. "You'd walk up to somebody and say, 'As-salaamu alaykum.' 'Tsenga yee?' It's kind of like 'What's up?' " Jackson said. "It's like 20 different ways of saying hello. I would walk up to an old man, shake his hand, look him straight in the face -- with my sunglasses off, so he could see my eyes -- and we would be shaking hands for probably one or two minutes." The majority of my time in Afghanistan ... I was interacting with people over there. The more you do that ... the better results. Jackson didn't mind looking goofy, fumbling with the Pashto language or trying to tell a joke.

For Navy SEAL Team 6, A Huge Loss For A Small Unit

(NPR)...Rachel Martin

The Special Operations Forces are used primarily to train foreign militaries around the world. Olson said that's happening in more than 60 countries right now, including places like Yemen, Somalia and Uganda. "We are developing long-term relationships; we are learning the language; we're meeting the people; we are studying the histories; we're learning the black markets; we're learning how things really happen in those places," he said.

Americans Could Earn 20 Percent More per Hour by Learning a new Language (prNewswire)

New research and infographic has revealed that Americans could earn 20 percent more per hour by learning another language as research suggests that bilingual people not only earn more money but also, are better able to multitask in their everyday lives. Emerging economies such as China, India and Brazil continue to grow at an ever-increasing rate, so has the rise in foreign language studies. In 2009 results have shown that the study of Japanese, Chinese, Portuguese and Korean all grew by approximately 15 percent in just five years. However, despite the growing significance of non-English speaking countries, just 9.3 percent of Americans are bilingual, compared to over half of all Europeans.

Why It's Smart to Be Bilingual

(The Daily Beast)...Casey Schwartz

Bilingualism, of course, can be a leg up for college admission and a résumé burnisher. But a growing body of research now offers a further rationale: the regular, high-level use of more than one language may actually improve early brain development. According to several different studies, command of two or more languages bolsters the ability to focus in the face of distraction, decide between competing alternatives, and disregard irrelevant information. These essential skills are grouped together, known in brain terms as "executive function." The research suggests they develop ahead of time in bilingual children, and are already evident in kids as young as 3 or 4.

Quincy native enjoys role commanding female Marines in Afghanistan

(Quincy Herald-Whig)...Rodney Hart

A woman's perspective can only help. That's how U.S. Marine and Quincy native Melissa Blyleven looks at her job as a female engagement team commander in Afghanistan. She oversees women Marines who go with patrols to remote villages and talk to the women they encounter.

<u>Draft report urges greater access to proposed rules for non-English speakers</u> (nextgov)...Joseph Marks

Federal agencies should make more of an effort to post translations of proposed new regulations on their websites for non-English speakers, according to a <u>draft report</u> released Monday. Agencies also should provide text-only versions of the proposals to make them more accessible to citizens with low-bandwidth Internet and more compatible with software that translates Web pages into audio for the blind, according to the report to the rule-making committee of the Administrative Conference of the United States.

A Look At Excelsior's Chinese Immersion Program

(Patch.com)...Delane Cleveland

Although temperatures hovered around 100 degrees during the last week of the 2010-2011 school year, students at Excelsior Elementary were still hard at work honing their language skills. And they had help from their friends from the Far East. Eighteen students from Beijing came to the Lake Minnetonka area for a slice of Minnesota's version of 5th grade life while staying with host families. "It's totally different from our school," said Lucy Lui, an 11-year-old 5th grade student from Beijing.

New HSK for iPad - Learn Chinese and Prepare for HSK Exams

(prMac - PRESS RELEASE)

3y3.net today is pleased to introduce New Chinese HSK for iPad, a learning application which allows you to study all vocabulary and pronunciation for the new HSK levels 1, 2, 3, and 4 comprising more than 1200 words. The new Hanyu Shuiping Kaoshi (HSK) is a standardized international Chinese proficiency test designed by the Center of Beijing Language and Culture University. Certificate of HSK will be issued to those who have secured the required scores. It is a dependable measure of your Chinese level used in admission or course placement of colleges or universities, and job application.

PREVIOUS NEWS

IU urges Congress to restore foreign language funding cuts

(Chesterton Tribune)

Indiana University is working to find alternative ways to fund foreign language instruction after a \$1.7 million decrease in federal funds, even as its president urges Congress to restore funding for such programs. Congress has cut \$50 million from the Department of Education's HEA-Title VI and Fulbright-Hays programs that support foreign culture and language training. IU has one of the highest concentrations of Title VI programs in the country. President Michael McRobbie says the programs have helped train foreign language scholars, military personnel and public service leaders for generations. He says restoring Title VI funding to 2010 levels is essential to continuing that work. McRobbie is one of more than 80 college and university presidents who signed a letter urging Congress to restore the funds.

Israeli nursing school rescinds ban on speaking Russian and Arabic

(Haareetz.com)...Jack Khoury

The Health Ministry has instructed the School of Nursing in Ashkelon, part of the city's Barzilai Medical Center, to withdraw an order banning students from speaking any language other than Hebrew on campus. The order, printed on nursing school and ministry letterhead and bearing the stamp of the school administration, reads: "Students, it is absolutely prohibited to conduct a conversation in a foreign language during studies and in school corridors. The official language of the school is Hebrew." The majority of the school's 250 students are from the south of the country, with a smaller number from the center and north of Israel. Many of the students speak Russian or other Eastern European languages, and quite a few are Arab. According to one student, who asked to remain anonymous, the directive was posted about two weeks ago and drew many angry responses from students.

300 Students Affected by Abbey College Closure

(98FM)

300 foreign language students have been left high and dry, after finding themselves locked out of classes, when their college ceased trading at the weekend. Abbey College, based on Dame Street, had about 300

English language students and 20 teachers, but now says a liquidator is being appointed to wind down the business.

Ohio language students benefit from Arabic Camp

(Gillette News Record)...Delaney Daly

Imagine becoming immersed entirely in an Arabic culture. Learning to adjust to a different language, different food and a different way of thinking can be a challenging process for most people. Established more than 25 years ago, the Academy of World Languages offers extensive diversity in different cultures, providing students with the choice to learn Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, and Russian. English as a second language is also taught. Half of the school's population is international students, representing 42 countries and 38 languages. "We want to continue the bridge to foreign language and foreign understanding," said Jacquelyn Rowedder, the principal of Academy of World Languages.

SAIC Launches First Hybrid Machine Translation Solution, Helping Redefine Language Services (PRNewswire – Press Release)

Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) [NYSE: SAI] today announced its linguistics technology offering, with the industry's first hybrid machine translation (HMT) solution. The linguistics technology offering enables language service providers and users of translation services to operate more efficiently and effectively to meet the growing need for cross-lingual communication in today's global market. SAIC's new offering puts advanced technology – with the ability to translate in context – directly in the hands of users. Direct access to the machine translation (MT) technology reduces the need for more expensive human translation (HT), thereby elevating human translators to higher order editors, potentially resulting in lower costs for businesses and increased productivity for translation providers.

Exchange offers lessons for Wellington, Japanese students

(SnpOnline.com)...Melissa Dilley

For 21/2 weeks in July, the Wellington School hosted 15 high school students from its sister school in Saitama Prefecture, Japan. In addition to teaching daily English classes, summer program instructors facilitated trips to Central Ohio attractions. "This is a fun way to see the different cultures and to see how excited they get learning about things we love doing," said student and Wellington senior Chelcie Trepp. She has been volunteering with the summer program for three years. The exchange program, in its 20th year, is meant to bring diversity not just to the visiting students, but to those whose homes they share.

Local Marine reaches out to women in Afghanistan

(Marietta Daily journal)...Kyle Dominy

Lance Cpl. Jacqueline Veres has been in the Helmand province of Afghanistan since March, working with a Female Engagement Team, a special force designed to build relationships and gather information from Afghan women. "We are here for counterinsurgency and to win the trust and confidence of the Afghan women, men and children," Veres said. "We are the voice for over 50 percent of the population." Cultural restrictions in Afghanistan forbid a woman from speaking to a man who is neither their husband nor a close relative.

Female engagement team helps child recover from cancer

(RC-East.com)...Spc. John Iasiello

The Female Engagement Team from Company D, 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry Brigade, Task Force Creek, and medics from Operational Detachment Alpha, both under Task Force Duke, helped save the life of a local female child stricken with cancer. Company D's FET was invited by Operational Detachment Alpha medics to assist with the care and treatment of "Bebe," the name given to her to protect her family from retribution from the Taliban.

La.'s Tunica tribe revives its lost language

(Associated Press)

Brenda Lintinger decided to do more than learn a new language — she set out to resurrect the ancient tongue of her own Tunica Indian tribe, words that had not been uttered for more than 60 years. In spring 2010, the 51-year-old Tunica Tribal Council member had been searching the website of Tulane University in New Orleans when she noticed that the school specialized in lesser-known languages.

Sacramento Valley Charter School: Redefining education in an innovative way

(Examiner.com)...Amrik Singh

A Press Conference was held in West Sacramento Gurdwara at 5 PM on August 6, 2011 to brief people regarding the opening of a charter school in their neighborhood. Sacramento Valley Charter School Board of Directors answered an array of questions about school's programs, which would prepare students to compete and excel on a global level. In addition to English, Science, Math and American history, students will have the opportunity to learn Punjabi as a Foreign Language. Board members said that learning a foreign language helps in developing cognitive and critical skills which are necessary for a strong foundation in other subjects as well.

ROTCs return to lvy League

(USA Today)...Jim Michaels

There are practical reasons for seeking more military candidates among the elite universities, say some experts. The military is increasingly involved in counterinsurgency campaigns that require officers with cultural and language skills, says the Pentagon. Gen. David Petraeus, who led coalition efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan before being appointed to head the CIA, has a doctorate from Princeton and has spoken of the value of a broad education for military officers. Counterinsurgencies in Iraq and Afghanistan have required officers who are leaders and can think creatively.